
*** ABOUT THE KICKAPOO ***
*** INDIANS ***

Eight years ago 150 fullblood Kickapoo Indians got tired of being the little children of Uncle Sam and ran away from home. They left what is now the state of Oklahoma, then Indian Territory, and journeyed to Mexico, where, penetrating 150 miles the other side of the boundary, they purchased six square miles of land and took up their permanent residence.

The spirit of the movement was much like that of the small boy who gets tired of school and rules and discipline and regulations and chores and being looked after. They were being carefully paternalized by the Interior Department. Their lands were being conserved, leased, and farmed for them and they were being given money every little while to buy food (which, however, was generally used to buy drink).

So they reverted to type and went back to nature. They went to Coahuila and started operations on the old tribal, communistic basis. They turned their ponies loose on the common land and farmed what land they wanted to. The Indian Commissioner was scandalized. He even recommended to the president that they be extradited as criminals and dragged back by force. However, they were not brought back.

And what is the sequel? The Kickapoo tribe in Oklahoma today has six deaths for every

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birth. The section of the Kickapoos which went to Mexico has today six births for every death. Disease, such as scrofula, which was before prevalent, has disappeared.

The colony now numbers 178 and its members are healthy and happy. Which would seem to indicate that there may be something wrong with our Indian policy. Possibly there is too much paternalism. Or it may be just too much sawdust-brained red-tapeism.

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 There is two cents worth of sugar in every human body. How the Sugar Trust gnashes its teeth at the thought of this terrible waste.